A Short Course on NIST Essentials
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SPEAKER BIOS

Jonathan Hardis

Dr. Jonathan Hardis is a Senior Scientific Advisor in Physical Measurement Laboratory at NIST, which develops and disseminates the national standards of measurement for SI units. Previously, he worked to develop standards for the measurement of optical power, and to update the NIST realization of the candela, the SI base unit for luminous intensity. In his present position he supports the management of Physical Measurement Laboratory in program planning, operations, and communication.

Dr. Hardis received a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Chicago, and an S.B. degree in Physics from MIT.

Pat Harris

Pat Harris is an International Standards Specialist in the NIST's Standards Coordination Office. She brings to SCO extensive experience in the standards development arena at the national and international levels, having managed an ANSI-accredited standards setting organization and the secretariat for an ISO Subcommittee. Through this hands-on experience she has gained valuable insights into standards development processes and systems. She has also engaged in a number of standards activities that have demonstrated the value of standardization to enabling innovations in information technology, including standardization of the file structures for the CD-ROM and eBooks. Currently her duties include participating on the team representing U.S. standards interests to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

Ms. Harris is a graduate of the Randolph Macon Woman's College, holds an M.S. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and currently serves on the Board of Visitors to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science.

Carol Hockert

Carol Hockert is the Chief of the Office of Weights and Measures at NIST, which provides technical expertise, training, international perspective and representation, and oversight to the U.S. legal metrology infrastructure. As part of her responsibilities, she serves as the Executive Secretary for the National Conference on Weights and Measures.

Prior to her appointment at NIST, she was the Director of the Weights and Measures Division for the State of Minnesota. Ms. Hockert began her career as a metrologist in the Minnesota state metrology laboratory, where she gained experience in mechanical, dimensional and thermodynamic calibrations, as well as in technical writing. She has done technical training on several measurement topics. In addition, she spent six years as a both a lead and technical assessor for the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).

Ms. Hockert is currently the Technical Program chair for the NCSL International (NCSLI), a professional association made up of people and organizations with an interest in measurement science. She is also a Past President. NCSLI promotes competitiveness and success of its members by improving the quality of products and services through excellence in calibration, testing, and metrology education and training.

Ms. Hockert received her Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota.

Willie May

Dr. Willie E. May is the NIST Associate Director for Laboratory Programs. He is responsible for oversight and direction of NIST's six laboratory programs and also serves as the principal deputy to the NIST Director. The position of Associate Director for Laboratory Programs was created in October 2010 as part of the first major realignment of NIST programs in more than 20 years.

NIST's six laboratories include the Physical Measurement Laboratory, Material Measurement Laboratory, Engineering Laboratory, Information Technology Laboratory, the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology, and the NIST Center for Neutron Research. The NIST Laboratories collaborate with U.S. industry and universities to conduct measurement, standards, and technology research that advances the nation's R&D infrastructure. The overarching goal of the NIST laboratory programs is to

accelerate U.S. innovation, which is a major driver of economic growth and job creation.

Immediately prior to his current position, Dr. May served as Director of the Material Measurement Laboratory, which serves as the Nation's reference laboratory for measurements in the chemical, biological, and materials sciences through activities ranging from fundamental research in the composition, structure, and properties of industrial, biological and environmental materials and processes, to the development and dissemination of certified reference materials, critically evaluated data, and other measurement quality assurance programs. Dr. May's personal research was focused in the areas of trace organic chemical analysis and the determination of physico-chemical properties of organic compounds.

Dr. May has several leadership responsibilities in addition to those at NIST. Among those are his serving as Vice President of the 18-person International Committee on Weights and Measures (CIPM); his serving as President of CIPM's Consultative Committee on Metrology in Chemistry and Biology; and his serving on the Board of Advisors to Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.

Erik Puskar

Erik Puskar leads global standards information activities within Standards Services, Standards Coordination Office at NIST.

Erik provides technical information related to standards and supports Federal agencies by monitoring developments in standards and conformity assessment internationally. Erik also leads SSG's impact analysis efforts of voluntary consensus standards as well as NIST's efforts on education about standardization. He is a member of the ANSI Committee on Education and represents NIST on the International Cooperation for Education about Standardization (ICES).

In addition to standards, he has experience in the fields of information technology, funding innovative high-risk technology and fiscal affairs/taxation. Previous to SSD, Erik was a program manager with the Advanced Technology Program (now Technology Innovation Program) of NIST and has held other positions with the U.S. Government, international development organizations, and consulting.

Erik holds a degree in Economics from Rutgers University and a Masters Degree in Public Management and Policy from Carnegie-Mellon University.

Robert L. Watters

Dr. Robert L. Watters, Jr. is the Associate Director for Measurement Services in the Material Measurement Laboratory (MML) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Dr. Watters is also the Director of the Office of Reference Materials (ORM) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), a position he has held since 2004. Dr. Watters has over 36 years of experience at NIST in the development of Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) and international metrology comparisons.

The Office of Reference Materials is responsible for all business support and information technology resources for NIST's Standard Reference Material Program. ORM also provides IT support for NIST calibration services. These programs represent over twenty million dollars in the transfer of NIST measurement services to the public and government agencies around the world.

Dr. Watters received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame in 1970 and his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1976. He joined the National Bureau of Standards in 1976, and became Group Leader for Atomic and Molecular Spectrometry in 1987. He has participated in the analysis and certification of over 150 Standard Reference Materials. He was a member of the NIST Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty Statements, which developed the NIST policy on implementing the ISO Guide to Uncertainty in Measurement.

Dr. Watters was a founding member of the Comité International des Poids et Mesures (CIPM) Consultative Committee on Amount of Substance. He led a team that developed an international database system for comparison measurements performed by the world's National Metrology Institutes. He is also responsible for maintaining the NIST Traceability web site, wherein the NIST policy on traceability is articulated, and through which many of NIST’s customers obtain answers to their traceability questions.